

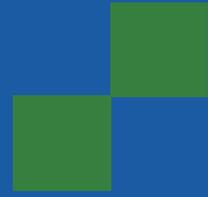


Planning my Future Success!

Grade 9 Course Selection

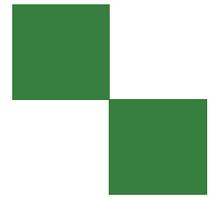


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Welcome to Secondary School!



Dear Students and Parents/Guardians:



Starting secondary school is a memorable and exciting time! It is also a time in which you may have questions about programs and the options available to you. This Course Selection guide has been developed to help you understand terms, requirements needed to complete secondary school, the types of courses available in Grade 9 and information about how to select courses.

Students, secondary school is a time where you begin to take more responsibility for your learning, so this guide will help you to make course selections, to plan out your secondary path and to start thinking about opportunities after secondary school. Preparing yourself for secondary school will set you on the path to success and we are here to help!

Parents, your child's transition to secondary school is an adjustment for you, too! Research has shown that learning and student achievement improve when parents/guardians are actively involved in their children's education, so we encourage you to be an active partner in your child's success. Whether you attend information sessions or school functions, join the School Council, or simply engage with and encourage your child each day, you are contributing to their progress and success at school. Together, we have a shared responsibility to provide your young adult with the best possible education, in a safe, inclusive and supportive environment.

I wish you - students and parents - a successful transition to secondary school and hope all students enjoy their secondary school learning journey. In partnership, we will fulfill our mission to help your child graduate a "confident learner, caring citizen!"

Warm regards,

Lucia Reece

Director of Education
Algoma District School Board

What do you need to graduate?

Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD)

17 Compulsory Credits

Credits	Subject
4	English (1 credit per grade)
3	Mathematics (Grade 9, 10, and 1 credit in Grade 11 or 12)
2	Science
1	Canadian History
1	Canadian Geography
1	Arts
1	Health and Physical Education
1	French or Ojibwe
1	Technological Education (Grade 9 or Grade 10)
0.5 + 0.5	Careers Civics

1 Credit from the STEM-related course group:

- Business Studies
- Computer Studies
- Cooperative Education
- Mathematics (in addition to the 3 compulsory credits)
- Science (in addition to the 2 compulsory credits)
- Technological Education (in addition to the 1 compulsory credit)

+ 13 Optional Credits

40 Hours of Community Involvement Activities

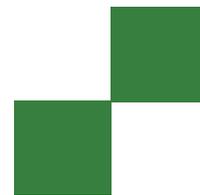
Literacy Graduation Requirement (written in Grade 10)

2 Online Learning Credits
Parents/Guardians who wish to exempt their student from the online learning graduation requirement must complete the [ADSB opt-out form](#).

Starting in September 2026, students must earn a financial literacy graduation requirement as part of the compulsory Grade 10 Mathematics course. Students will need to achieve a mark of 70% or higher to pass this requirement and earn their OSSD.

30 total credits

Grade 9 Course Types



In Grades 9 and 10, students will select an appropriate combination of courses to build their knowledge and skills, and to explore their interests before determining the courses and course types they will undertake in Grades 11 and 12. When selecting Grades 9 and 10 courses, students are not expected to make binding decisions about a particular educational or career pathway. In Grade 9, all courses are offered in a single stream - either as de-streamed, locally developed, or open course types. In Grade 10, the course types offered are academic, applied, locally developed, and open.

De-Streamed

De-streamed courses develop students' knowledge and skills by helping them understand the theory behind concepts, and identify practical applications of concepts. In Grade 9, de-streamed level classes include Mathematics, Science, English, and Geography. *Grade 9 French (FSF1D) does not have a de-streamed course code, but is suitable for all learners.*

Open

An open level course comprises a set of expectations that is suitable for all students and is not linked to any specific post-secondary destination. These courses are designed to provide students with a broad educational base that will prepare them for their future studies. Open level courses in Grade 9 include Building the Entrepreneurial Mindset, Exploring Technological Design, Expressions of First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Cultures, Healthy Active Living Education, Integrated Arts, Music, Ojibwe, Technology and the Skilled Trades, and Visual Arts. *Note that course options vary by school.*

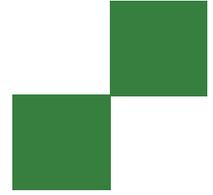
Locally Developed

Locally developed compulsory credit courses are intended for students who require a measure of flexibility and support in order to meet the compulsory credit requirements in English, Mathematics, and Science for the Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD). These types of courses help prepare students for further study in courses from the curriculum policy documents for these disciplines.

Grade 11 and Grade 12 Course Types

Course types in grades 11 and 12 cater to students' varying academic needs and future pathways. Course types include: *University Preparation (U), University/College Preparation (M), College Preparation (C), Open (O), and Workplace Preparation (E).*

Understanding Course Codes



Course codes consist of 5 characters and identify the type of course. For example, the course code for Exploring Canadian Geography is CGC1W.

CGC



The first letter identifies the curriculum area



A - Arts
B - Business
C - Canadian & World Studies
E - English
F - French
L - Languages
M - Mathematics
P - Health and Physical Education
S - Science
T - Technological Education

1W



The number identifies the grade:

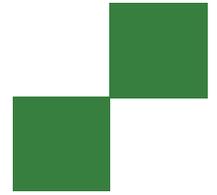
1 - Grade 9
2 - Grade 10
3 - Grade 11
4 - Grade 12

The letter after the number identifies the course type:

W - De-streamed
O - Open
L - Locally Developed

The second and third letters are the course descriptor; for example: GC stands for *Geography of Canada*.

Grade 9 Course Options



Apprenticeship College, or University Pathway



- 1.Science (SNC1W)
- 2.Math (MTH1W)
- 3.English (ENL1W)

Workplace Pathway*



- 1.Science (SNC1L)
- 2.Math (MAT1L)
- 3.English (ENG1L)



4. Geography (CGC1W)
5. French (FSF1D) or Ojibwe (LNOAO)
6. Healthy Active Living Education (PPL10)
7. Expressions of First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Cultures (NAC10), Integrated Arts (ALC10), Music (AMU10), or Visual Arts (AVI10)
8. Building the Entrepreneurial Mindset (BEM10), Exploring Technological Design (TDJ10), or Technology and the Skilled Trades (TAS10)

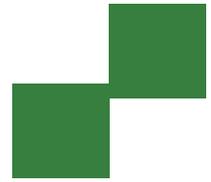
**Course options may vary by school*

*The decision to take Locally Developed Compulsory courses (SNC1L, MAT1L, ENG1L) is made in consultation with the school (Administration, Special Education Resource Teacher (SERT), School Board staff), the family, and the student, as part of meaningful transition planning for all students.

Some credits may be substituted based on individual need. A substitution is made during a transition meeting AFTER option selection.

If you are applying to a specialized program, such as the Alliance Academy, Advanced Placement, Enhanced Learning, French Immersion, and MLL, please follow the course selection instructions from the host school.

Grade 9 Course Selection



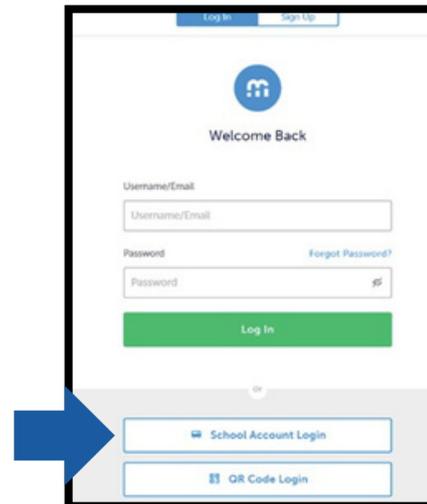
Course selection is completed using myBlueprint Education Planner. Students are required to use this online tool to make their course selections.

1

Logging In

In a web browser, visit www.myblueprint.ca/algoma

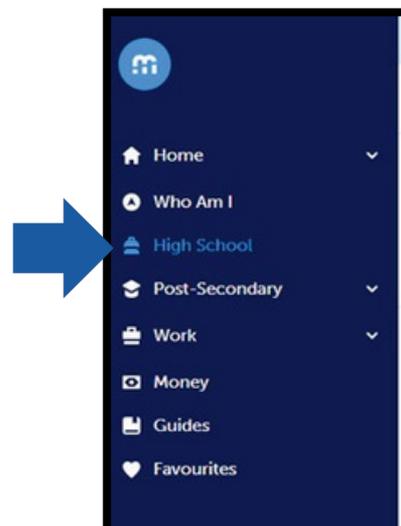
Select **School Account Log In**. Enter your ADSB email address and password when prompted.



2

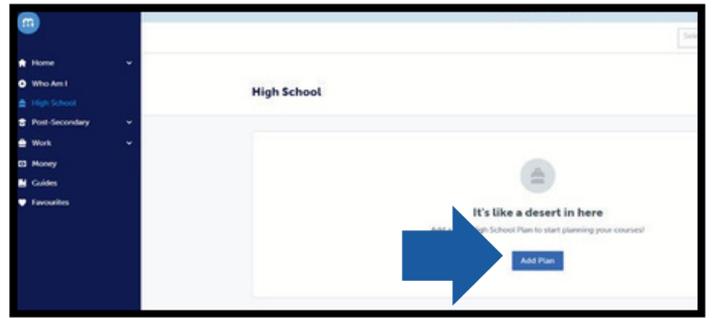
Accessing my Educational Planner

From your dashboard, click **High School** in the navigation bar on the left side of the screen.



3

To start your course selection in the Educational Planner, click the **Add plan** button.

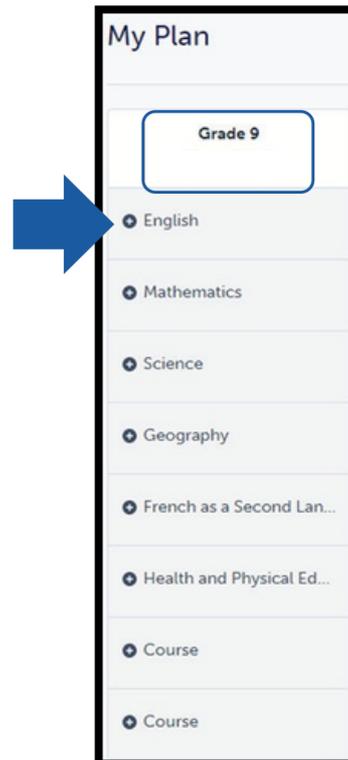


Selecting Compulsory Courses

You will be making course selections in the **GRADE 9** column of your planner.

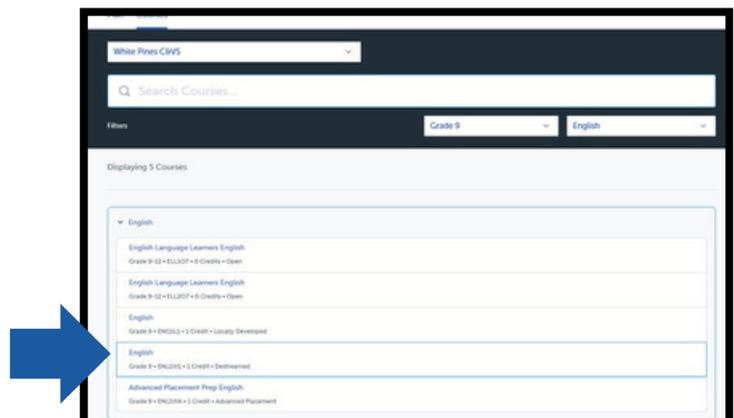
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Start by adding your English course: Click **+ English**. A new screen will open with the options for grade 9 English courses offered at your high school.



5

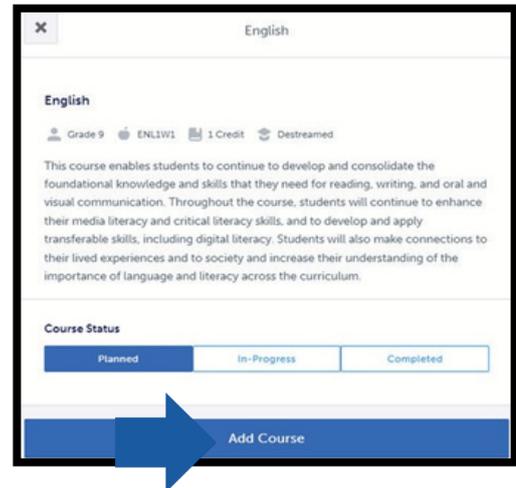
Click the English course that you wish to take. In the example, the student has selected Grade 9 de-streamed English (ENL1W).



6

Read the course description and check that you have selected the correct course code.

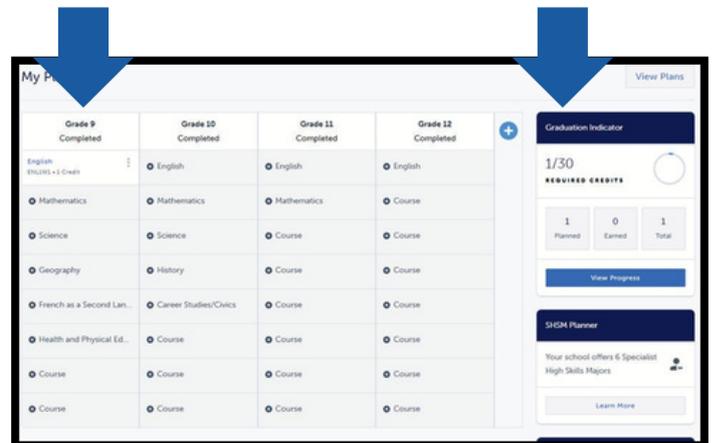
To add this course to your planner, select **Add Course**. If you have selected the incorrect course, click the 'x' in the top left corner to return to the previous screen.



7

The Grade 9 English course that was selected has been added to the planner. The course also appears in the graduation indicator (1/30).

Repeat the process of adding the remaining compulsory courses: Science, Mathematics and Geography.

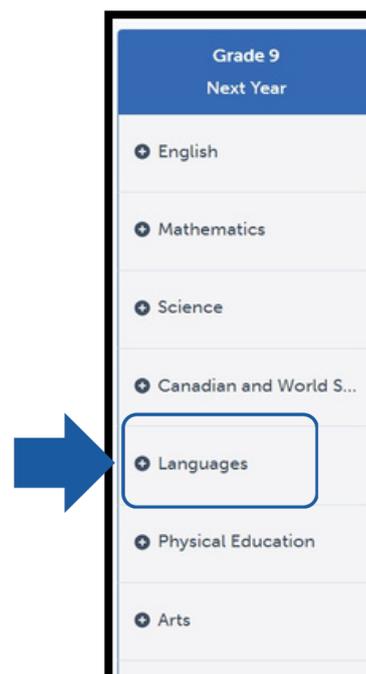


Selecting Optional Courses

The title of some optional courses may already appear in your planner. An example is the Language optional course.

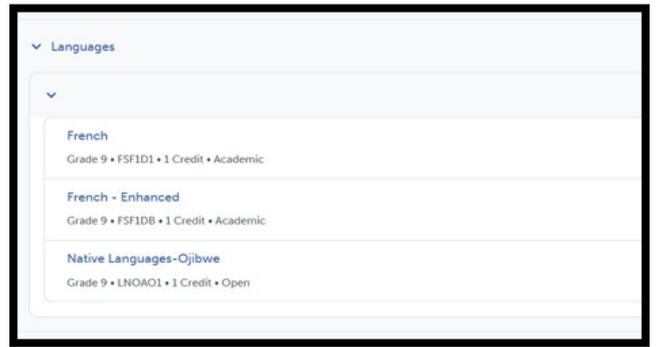
8

To select your language option, click **+ Languages**.



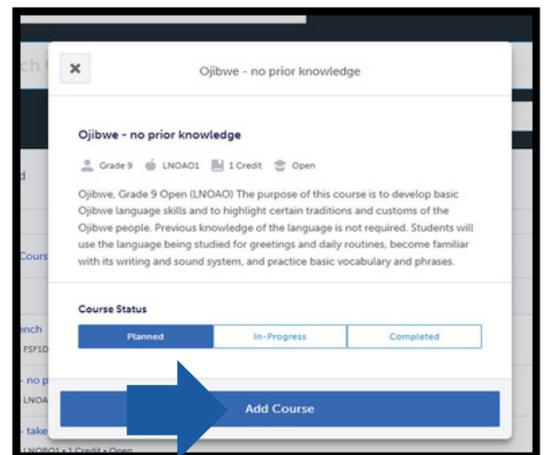
9

Select the course that you wish to take. *Note that the courses displayed will vary from school to school.*



10

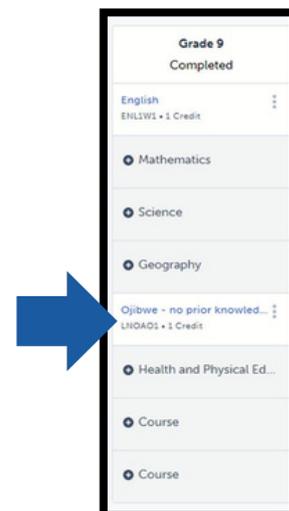
Review the course description and course code before clicking the **Add Course** button.

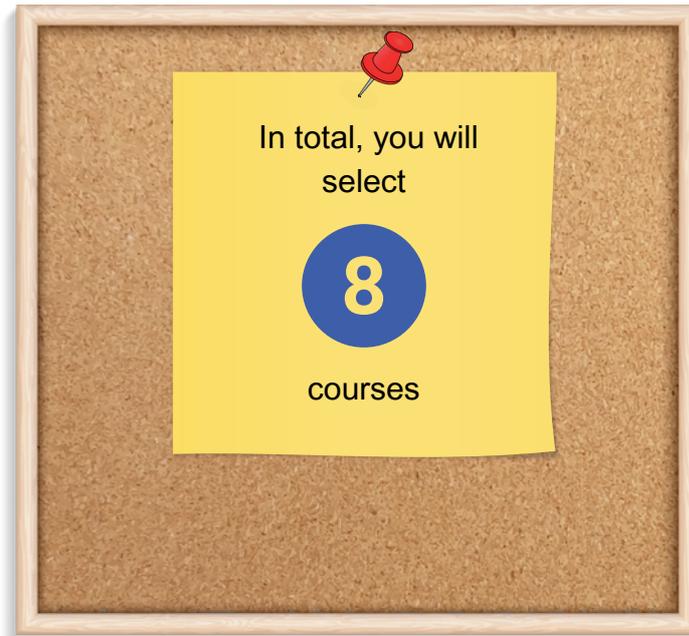


11

Your language option will now appear in your planner.

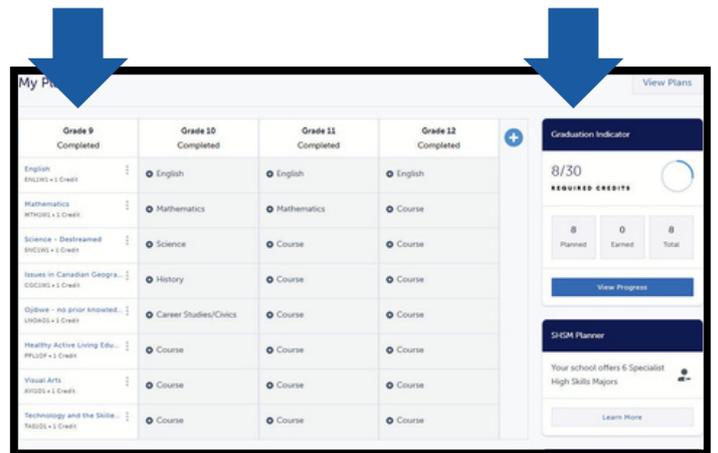
Repeat this process to select a Health and Physical Education option, an Art or Music option, and a Technology and Skilled Trades or Business option.





12

Confirm that 8 courses appear in your planner. You should also see 8/30 in your graduation indicator.



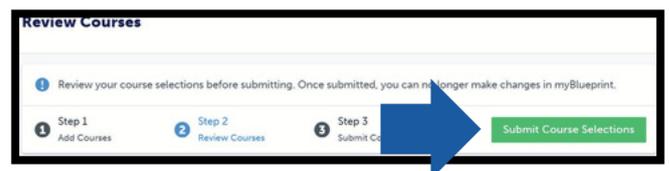
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Click the **Review Course Selections** button.



14

Click the **Submit Course Selections** button after confirming your choices.





Planning for the Future - myBlueprint Activities

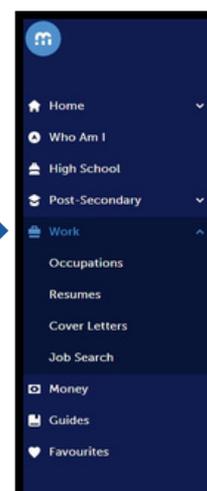


The following myBlueprint activities are designed to help you plan for your future by exploring a variety of career pathways.

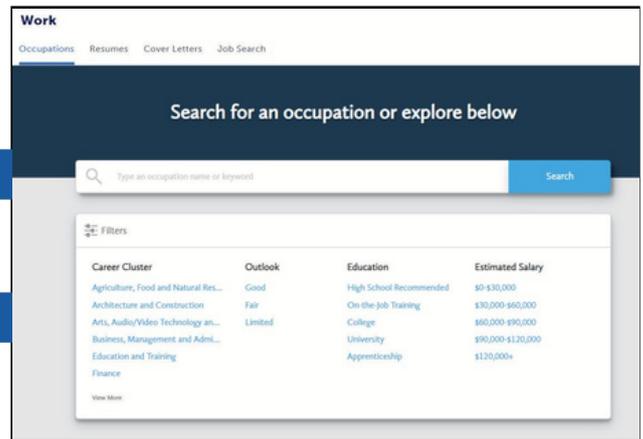
Activity 1: Exploring Occupations

Click **Work** in the navigation bar.

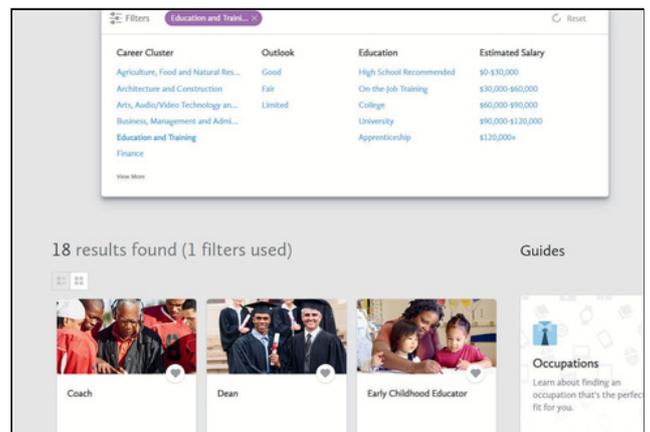
Next, click **Occupations**.



In the search bar, enter the name of an occupation (job) or a keyword. Or, use the filters at the bottom of your screen to search Career Clusters. This will identify occupations by type.



From the search results, click an occupation to explore, for example, Early Childhood Educator.



Read the information about the occupation.

Click the **Requirements** tab to learn about the education and skills required to do this job. Click the **Outlook** tab to explore employment opportunities in this field.



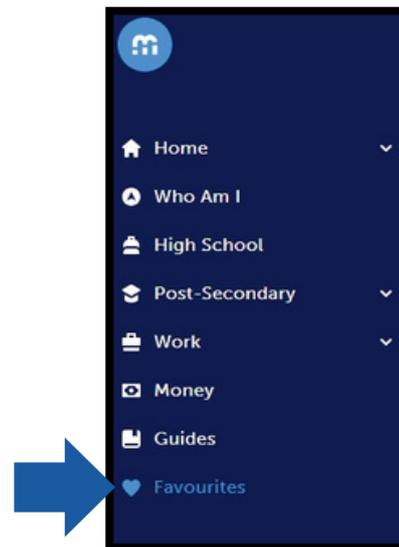
When you find an occupation that interests you, select **Add to Favourites** underneath the title.

Add four occupations to your Favourites in preparation for the next activity.

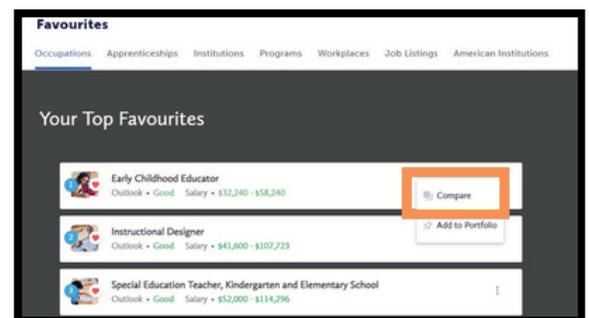
Activity 2: Comparing Occupations

Click **Favourites** in the navigation bar.

The occupations that you added to your Favourites in Activity 1 should be displayed on the screen.



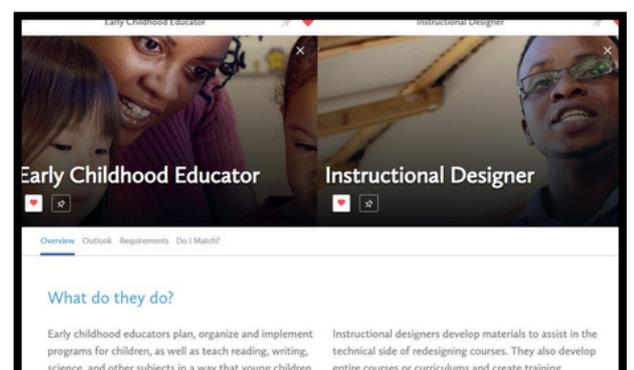
Select two occupations that you would like to compare. To select an occupation, click the three dots to the right of the occupation and click the **Compare** button.



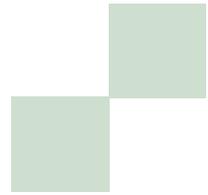
When you have selected two occupations, click the **Compare** button at the top of your screen.



The two occupations are displayed side by side.



myBlueprint Activity Reflection



You explored information on four different careers in Activity 1 and compared two in detail in Activity 2. Thinking about what you have read, respond to the following questions:

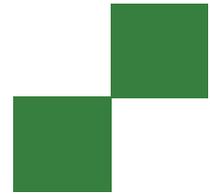


Which occupation seems the most interesting? Why?



Which courses/ course types will help to prepare me for a career in this field?

Terms and Definitions



COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT HOURS

Students must complete 40 hours of community involvement activities in order to earn their Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD). Students may begin completing this requirement in the summer going into their grade 9 year. Information on how to get started and eligible activities can be found on the ADSB website: www.adsb.on.ca

COMPULSORY COURSE

There are 17 compulsory (mandatory) credits that students must successfully complete in order to meet the requirements for an Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD).

CREDIT

A credit value of 1.0 is granted upon successfully completing a 110-hour course with a minimum of 50%. A credit value of 0.5 is granted upon successfully completing a 55-hour course with a minimum of 50%.

EQAO GRADE 9 ASSESSMENT OF MATHEMATICS

The Grade 9 Assessment of Mathematics assesses the mathematics knowledge and skills students are expected to have learned by the end of the Grade 9 mathematics course. The assessment is administered at the end of the semester in the Grade 9 mathematics (MTH1W) course and counts for 10% of a student's final grade.

EQAO LITERACY TEST

The Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT) is administered in Grade 10 and measures whether students are meeting the minimum standard for literacy across all subjects up to the end of Grade 9. Successful completion of the literacy test is one of the requirements to earn an Ontario Secondary School Diploma.

FINAL EVALUATION

Thirty percent of the course grade will be based on a final evaluation administered at or towards the end of the course. This evaluation will be based on evidence from one or a combination of the following: an examination, a performance, an essay, and/or another method of evaluation suitable to the course content.

INDIVIDUAL EDUCATION PLAN (IEP)

A written plan outlining the special education programs and/or services required by a particular student that they will receive at school.

INDIVIDUAL PATHWAY PLAN

Students use an Individual Pathway Plan (IPP) to track the growth of their career development competencies and plan for their future. ADSB uses myBlueprint to support students with their IPP: myblueprint.ca/algoma

OPTIONAL COURSE

Students must successfully complete 13 optional (additional) credits from areas of interest and/or pathways. These credits will contribute to the 30-credit requirement for an OSSD.

PREREQUISITE

Refers to a specific course that you must complete successfully before taking another course at the next grade level.

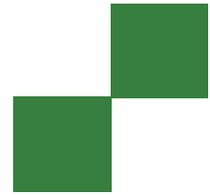
SEMESTER

The school year is divided into two semesters: September - January, February - June. Students take four courses each semester.

STUDENT SERVICES

Secondary schools have staff and programs in place to support and improve student learning, pathway planning, and ensure student success in secondary school.

My Course Selections



The space below has been provided for you to record your grade 9 course selections. Write the course codes (e.g. ENL1W) for the courses that you selected in the Course Code column. *You can use the information on page 6 to help you.*

Selection	Course Code
Grade 9	Grade 9
1 English	1
2 Mathematics	2
3 Science	3
4 Geography	4
5	5
6	6
7	7
8	8

Notes



A large area of lined paper for writing notes. The page features horizontal blue lines and a vertical red margin line on the left side.

